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17 July 1970

MEMORANDUM FOR:



SUBJECT : American Friends Service Committee
Allegations re the Quang Ngai PIC

1. A somewhat oddball item came up at the 17 July Sullivan Committee meeting, one with which we could possibly get involved. The story briefly seems to be this:

a. The Con Son "Tiger Cage" publicity apparently induced a Mr. Louis W. Schneider of the American Friends Service Committee (AFSC) to write a letter to President Nixon with various attachments. Copies of the package were sent to various people including the "Special House Committee to Investigate War in Indochina." It was in the capacity of members of this special committee that Congressmen Anderson and Hawkins, who saw the Con Son cages, went to Vietnam.

b. A copy of the package is appended hereto. You will note that its last enclosure is a letter (or portions of a letter) to Congressmen Anderson and Hawkins from a Dr. Marjorie Nelson, who apparently was working in Quang Ngai Province as a physician on an AFSC project from October 1967 until October 1969. This letter from Dr. Nelson and her allegations are also referred to in Mr. Schneider's 10 July letter to Ambassador Bui Diem, which is also part of the package.

c. Dr. Nelson alleges that she treated patients, including women (one seven months pregnant), who had been systematically and deliberately tortured in the Quang Ngai Provincial Interrogation Center.

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d. Mr. Engel (Director, Vietnam Working Group -- Free Matthews' replacement) said Dr. Nelson was testifying before a congressional committee on the morning of 17 July. When pressed, Mr. Engel said he thought it was the "Moss Committee" (a subcommittee of the Committee on Government Operations), but he was not sure.

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5. Some of the above data will probably have to be obtained from [] some may be unattainable. I will keep Sullivan & Co. at bay until we can collect enough facts to caucus and determine how best to proceed. I am sending copies of this note and its attachments to Messrs. Meyer and Maury who should be kept apprised of developments as they occur.

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[]
Special Assistant for Vietnamese Affairs

Attachment

cc: Mr. Cord Meyer w/atts
Mr. John Maury w/atts

GAC: JAL

Distribution:

Orig. - C/FE w/atts & as above
1 - GAC Chrono w/o atts
1 - Quang Ngai PIC

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